

FORM PTO-1390 (Modified) U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
(REV. 7-2005)TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES  
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)  
CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER

284677US-90-PCT

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5)

10/565540

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/JP2004/010977

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE

23 July 2004

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED

23 July 2003 (earliest)

TITLE OF INVENTION

CONTINUOUS CASTING METHOD, CAST MEMBER, METAL WORKED ARTICLE, AND CONTINUOUS CASTING APPARATUS

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

Yasuhisa Hagiwara, et al

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (24) indicated below.
4. ☐ The US has been elected (Article 31).
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2))
  - a. ☐ is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☒ has been communicated by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☐ An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
  - a. ☐ is attached hereto.
  - b. ☐ has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
7. ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3))
  - a. ☐ are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☐ have been communicated by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
  - d. ☒ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☐ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).
10. ☐ An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).
11. ☐ A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409).
12. ☒ A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210).

Items 13 to 23 below concern document(s) or information included:

13. ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
14. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
15. ☒ A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
16. ☐ A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
17. ☐ A substitute specification.
18. ☐ A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.
19. ☐ A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821 - 1.825.
20. ☐ A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
21. ☐ A second copy of the English language translation of the International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
22. ☐ Express Mail Label No.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<p>U.S. APPLICATION NO. <b>10/565540</b> (SEE 37 CFR 1.5)</p>	<p>INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. <b>PCT/JP2004/010977</b></p>	<p>ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER <b>284677US-90-PCT</b></p>																																																																								
<p>23. Other items or information:</p> <p><b>Notice of Priority (2)/PCT/IB/304</b>  <b>Request for Consideration of Documents Cited in International Report</b>  <b>Application Data Sheet (2 pages)</b></p>																																																																										
<p>The following fees have been submitted:</p>		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 100%;">CALCULATIONS</th> <th style="width: 100%;">PTO USE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"> <p>24. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic national fee ..... \$300</p> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$ 300.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"> <p>25. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examination fee (37 CFR 1.492(c))                      If the written opinion of the ISA/US or the international preliminary examination report prepared by IPEA/US indicates all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ... \$0                      All other situations. .... \$200</p> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$ 200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"> <p>26. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Search fee (37 CFR 1.492(b))                      If the written opinion of the ISA/US or the international preliminary examination report by IPEA/US indicates all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ... \$0                      Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) has been paid on the international application to the as an International Searching Authority. .... \$100                      International Search Report prepared by an ISA other than the US and provided to the previously communicated to the US by the IB. .... \$400                      All other situations. .... \$500</p> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$ 400.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"> <p><b>TOTAL OF 24, 25 and 26 =</b></p> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$ 900.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;"> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing in compliance with 37 CFR 1.821(c) or (e) or computer program listing in an electronic medium) (37 CFR 1.492(j)).                      The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.</p> </td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">Total Sheets</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Extra Sheets</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole)</th> <th style="width: 15%;">RATE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">- 100 =</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">/50 = 0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x \$250.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$ 0.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;"> <p>Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing any of the search fee, examination fee, or the oath or declaration after the date of commencement of the national stage (37 CFR 1.492(h)).</p> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$ 130.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">CLAIMS</th> <th style="width: 15%;">NUMBER FILED</th> <th style="width: 15%;">NUMBER EXTRA</th> <th style="width: 15%;">RATE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total claims</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13 - 20 =</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x \$50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independent claims</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2 - 3 =</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x \$200.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$ 0.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;"> <p>MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> + \$360.00</p> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$ 0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;"> <p><b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b></p> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$ 1,030.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;"> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Fees above are reduced by 1/2.</p> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$ 0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;"> <p><b>SUBTOTAL =</b></p> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$ 1,030.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;"> <p>Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(i)).</p> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$ 0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;"> <p><b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</b></p> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$ 1,030.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;"> <p>Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40 per property +</p> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$ 0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;"> <p><b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</b></p> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$ 1,030.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;"> <p>Amount to be</p> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;"> <p>Amount to be</p> </td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">\$</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	CALCULATIONS	PTO USE	<p>24. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic national fee ..... \$300</p>	\$ 300.00	<p>25. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examination fee (37 CFR 1.492(c))                      If the written opinion of the ISA/US or the international preliminary examination report prepared by IPEA/US indicates all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ... \$0                      All other situations. .... \$200</p>	\$ 200.00	<p>26. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Search fee (37 CFR 1.492(b))                      If the written opinion of the ISA/US or the international preliminary examination report by IPEA/US indicates all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ... \$0                      Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) has been paid on the international application to the as an International Searching Authority. .... \$100                      International Search Report prepared by an ISA other than the US and provided to the previously communicated to the US by the IB. .... \$400                      All other situations. .... \$500</p>	\$ 400.00	<p><b>TOTAL OF 24, 25 and 26 =</b></p>	\$ 900.00	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing in compliance with 37 CFR 1.821(c) or (e) or computer program listing in an electronic medium) (37 CFR 1.492(j)).                      The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.</p>			<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">Total Sheets</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Extra Sheets</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole)</th> <th style="width: 15%;">RATE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">- 100 =</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">/50 = 0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x \$250.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole)	RATE	- 100 =	0	/50 = 0	x \$250.00	\$ 0.00		<p>Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing any of the search fee, examination fee, or the oath or declaration after the date of commencement of the national stage (37 CFR 1.492(h)).</p>		\$ 130.00	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">CLAIMS</th> <th style="width: 15%;">NUMBER FILED</th> <th style="width: 15%;">NUMBER EXTRA</th> <th style="width: 15%;">RATE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total claims</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13 - 20 =</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x \$50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independent claims</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2 - 3 =</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x \$200.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	Total claims	13 - 20 =	0	x \$50.00	Independent claims	2 - 3 =	0	x \$200.00	\$ 0.00		<p>MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> + \$360.00</p>		\$ 0.00	<p><b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b></p>		\$ 1,030.00	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Fees above are reduced by 1/2.</p>		\$ 0.00	<p><b>SUBTOTAL =</b></p>		\$ 1,030.00	<p>Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(i)).</p>		\$ 0.00	<p><b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</b></p>		\$ 1,030.00	<p>Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40 per property +</p>		\$ 0.00	<p><b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</b></p>		\$ 1,030.00	<p>Amount to be</p>		\$	<p>Amount to be</p>		\$
CALCULATIONS	PTO USE																																																																									
<p>24. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic national fee ..... \$300</p>	\$ 300.00																																																																									
<p>25. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examination fee (37 CFR 1.492(c))                      If the written opinion of the ISA/US or the international preliminary examination report prepared by IPEA/US indicates all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ... \$0                      All other situations. .... \$200</p>	\$ 200.00																																																																									
<p>26. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Search fee (37 CFR 1.492(b))                      If the written opinion of the ISA/US or the international preliminary examination report by IPEA/US indicates all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ... \$0                      Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) has been paid on the international application to the as an International Searching Authority. .... \$100                      International Search Report prepared by an ISA other than the US and provided to the previously communicated to the US by the IB. .... \$400                      All other situations. .... \$500</p>	\$ 400.00																																																																									
<p><b>TOTAL OF 24, 25 and 26 =</b></p>	\$ 900.00																																																																									
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing in compliance with 37 CFR 1.821(c) or (e) or computer program listing in an electronic medium) (37 CFR 1.492(j)).                      The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.</p>																																																																										
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">Total Sheets</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Extra Sheets</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole)</th> <th style="width: 15%;">RATE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">- 100 =</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">/50 = 0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x \$250.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole)	RATE	- 100 =	0	/50 = 0	x \$250.00	\$ 0.00																																																																	
Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole)	RATE																																																																							
- 100 =	0	/50 = 0	x \$250.00																																																																							
<p>Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing any of the search fee, examination fee, or the oath or declaration after the date of commencement of the national stage (37 CFR 1.492(h)).</p>		\$ 130.00																																																																								
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">CLAIMS</th> <th style="width: 15%;">NUMBER FILED</th> <th style="width: 15%;">NUMBER EXTRA</th> <th style="width: 15%;">RATE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total claims</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13 - 20 =</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x \$50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independent claims</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2 - 3 =</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x \$200.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	Total claims	13 - 20 =	0	x \$50.00	Independent claims	2 - 3 =	0	x \$200.00	\$ 0.00																																																													
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE																																																																							
Total claims	13 - 20 =	0	x \$50.00																																																																							
Independent claims	2 - 3 =	0	x \$200.00																																																																							
<p>MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> + \$360.00</p>		\$ 0.00																																																																								
<p><b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b></p>		\$ 1,030.00																																																																								
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Fees above are reduced by 1/2.</p>		\$ 0.00																																																																								
<p><b>SUBTOTAL =</b></p>		\$ 1,030.00																																																																								
<p>Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(i)).</p>		\$ 0.00																																																																								
<p><b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</b></p>		\$ 1,030.00																																																																								
<p>Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40 per property +</p>		\$ 0.00																																																																								
<p><b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</b></p>		\$ 1,030.00																																																																								
<p>Amount to be</p>		\$																																																																								
<p>Amount to be</p>		\$																																																																								

10/565540

PTO-1390 (Rev. 07-2005)

Approved for use through 3/31/2007. OMB 0651-0021

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

- a. ☐ A check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the above fees is enclosed.
- b. ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the above fees.  
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- c. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- d. ☐ Fees are to be charged to a credit card. **WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. **Credit card information should not be included on this form.** Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

**NOTE:** Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Customer Number  
22850

Surinder Sachar  
SIGNATURE

Masayasu Mori

NAME

47,301

REGISTRATION NUMBER

DATE

Jan 23 2006

Surinder Sachar  
Registration No. 34,423

10/565540

IAP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 23 JAN 2006

Docket No. 284677US90PCT

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Yasuhisa HAGIWARA, et al.

SERIAL NO: New Application based on PCT/JP2004/10977

FILED: Herewith

FOR: CONTINUOUS CASTING METHOD, CAST MEMBER, METAL WORKED ARTICLE, AND CONTINUOUS CASTING APPARATUS

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

☐ No additional fee is required☐ Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. §1.9 and §1.27 is claimed.☒ Additional documents filed herewith: Application Data Sheet/Notice of Priority (2)/Credit Card Payment Form for \$1030.00/PCT Transmittal Letter/Preliminary Amendment/International Search Report/Request for Consideration of Documents Cited in International Search Report/PCT/IB/304

The Fee has been calculated as shown below:

CLAIMS	CLAIMS REMAINING		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID	NO. EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	CALCULATIONS	
TOTAL	13	MINUS	20	0	x \$50 =	\$0.00	
INDEPENDENT	2	MINUS	3	0	x \$200 =	\$0.00	
APPLICATION SIZE		MINUS	100	0 (each addtl. 50 sheets)	x \$250 =	\$0.00	
		<input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS			+ \$360 =	\$0.00	
		TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS					\$0.00
		<input type="checkbox"/> Reduction by 50% for filing by Small Entity					\$0.00
		TOTAL					\$0.00

☐ A check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached.☐ Credit card payment form is attached to cover the fees in the amount of \$0.00☒ Please charge any additional Fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.☒ If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time may be charged to Deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Masayasu Mori

Registration No. 47,301

Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000  
Fax. (703) 413-2220  
(OSMMN 05/03)

Surinder Sachar

Registration No. 34,423

DOCKET NO.: 284677 US

IAP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 23 JAN 2006

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Yasuhisa HAGIWARA, et al.

SERIAL NO.: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION

FILED: HERewith

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/JP04/10977

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: July 23, 2004

FOR: CONTINUOUS CASTING METHOD, CAST MEMBER, METAL WORKED ARTICLE,  
AND CONTINUOUS CASTING APPARATUS**REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF DOCUMENTS**  
**CITED IN INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application for patent, notice is hereby given that applicant(s) request that the Examiner consider the documents cited in the International Search Report according to MPEP §609 and so indicate by a statement in the first Office Action that the information has been considered. When the Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicates both the search report and copies of the documents are present in the national stage file, there is no requirement for the applicant(s) to submit them (1156 O.G. 91 November 23, 1993).

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

---

Masayasu Mori  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 47,301  
Surinder Sachar  
Registration No. 34,423

Customer Number

22850

(703) 413-3000  
Fax No. (703) 413-2220  
(OSMMN 08/03)